

on April 9, 2011. The inaugural event of the festival was a bonfire held at Veterans Field. Throughout the year there were family events and festivals, including the annual Summerfest held on the 4th of July, and the family ice cream social and concert sponsored by the Friends of the Keep Museum. Families also enjoyed the picnic held at Flynt Park. Other outdoor activities included a walk/run sponsored by the Peaked Mountain Committee and a motorcycle hill climb sponsored by the Quaboag Riders & Monson Lions Club. There were many cultural events as well, such as the Monson Arts Council's craft fair, the Monson Bellmen Antique Fire Apparatus Club and Museum's open house, and the Monson Rotary Club's concert at Dave Grieve Park.

A quilt show was held in which 50 Monson quilters donated a block to make a commemorative 250th anniversary quilt. This quilt will be on display continually in various buildings in the town. The concluding event of this festival will be the Monson 250th Gala Ball with the theme of "Remembering Monson." The ball will have a continuous slide show of all the old and new businesses and homes in Monson, as well as a display of Monson's non-profit organizations.

The town of Monson has been an important part of Massachusetts since well before the United States was founded. While this quintessential New England town is a place where families have lived for generations, Monson has also grown into a dynamic center for arts, culture and a thriving workplace. On its 250th anniversary, I am honored to represent the town of Monson and I look forward to celebrating many more anniversaries.

HONORING MARCH 25, 2011 AS THE
190TH ANNIVERSARY OF
GREECE'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 190th anniversary of Greek independence. It is an honor to recognize a nation whose rich and vibrant history not only laid the foundation for democracy, but whose immigrants and descendants have enriched the cultural landscape of our nation.

The warm friendship that America shares with Greece is rooted in the indelible mark of democracy and self-determination that Hellenic culture has left on our country. Just as our founding fathers were guided by these principles in their fight for independence from a foreign empire, so too were the founders of modern-day Greece, who declared their independence from the Ottoman Empire on March 25th, 190 years ago. Since the birth of both nations, we have striven together to uphold the values of freedom, equality, and justice championed by the Ancient Greeks. We have joined together to promote peace and stability in the world, and Greece has allied with the U.S. in every major international conflict throughout the 20th century.

From architecture to the democratic ideals we cherish, Greek culture has had a continued influence on the way Americans live their everyday lives. Illinois' Third District is fortunate to have one of the largest and most vibrant

Greek-American communities in America. And just as Greek citizens were integral in transforming Ancient Greece into a beacon of democracy and culture, Greek-Americans in Oak Lawn, Palos Hills, and throughout Southwestern Chicagoland have proudly contributed their strong cultural heritage and values into the patchwork that makes the Third District so distinct.

It is with great gratitude and pride that I rise to honor the independence of a nation that, from ancient times, has bestowed upon its citizens the fundamental rights of liberty and participation in the democratic process. Though rooted in ancient ideals, our strong allegiance with Greece continues to this day through a shared belief that freedom and democracy are the building blocks of peace. At home, I have witnessed firsthand the positive cultural heritage Greek-Americans bring to our local communities, and I trust that the bonds between our two nations will remain strong for years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010-2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—ZACH PALISCH

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010-2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC) from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service hours, fulfilling and far surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

This year 46 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 10 through 12 made their voices heard by joining CYAC. As the Third District's young ambassadors to Congress, these bright high school students met with me on a quarterly basis to discuss current events and public policy. These impressive young people recognize an important truth: the heart of public service is found when giving back to the community. CYAC students volunteered their time and talents with over 30 organizations including Adopt-A-Highway, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Teen Court, and the USO, to name a few. As one student shared, "CYAC in the Community has allowed me to realize my calling to serve those in the U.S. Armed Forces." I am beyond thrilled that CYAC has helped students unleash their full potential and chase their dreams.

President George H.W. Bush once said, "A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization."

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010-2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my

privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work! I salute you!

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

For the past three months, I have been volunteering my time weekly at the local elementary school by my house, Faith Lutheran. I am a volunteer basketball coach for a group of about eleven 5th and 6th graders who attend the school. We have a couple of games each week and have practices every Saturday morning at the school. The group of kids is very inexperienced as a whole so our practices are very important. We practice dribbling, passing, team building, team plays, and shooting for fun at the end. The practices were highly successful as I managed to teach the guys 8 plays total and everyone improved their skills individually as well over the year. The weekly games were always a fun and frustrating experience as I tried to coach a team to win as well as making it a fun learning experience for the kids. In the end all the hard work paid off as the boys had the first-ever undefeated season for the school and won the tournament at the end of the season. I can tell the kids learned a lot throughout the season, and I know I learned how rewarding an experience it can be to teach young children and watch them learn and grow.

—Zack Palisch

RECOGNIZING SERVICE OF DR. RICHARD LINTON, VICE PRESIDENT OF RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

HON. PETER A. DEFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a person who has made an important impact on the state of Oregon and the federal research enterprise through his work at the University of Oregon as Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies. Dr. Richard Linton is the longest serving vice president of research in the University of Oregon's history and among the longest-serving vice presidents of research within the Association of American Universities' membership.

He leaves the university after more than a decade of service. Dr. Linton's leadership has markedly improved the university's federal research enterprise, enabling university faculty and researchers to engage in discovery, innovation and scholarship that contribute to society's well-being and our understanding of our world.

Dr. Linton deserves special recognition for his guidance of sponsored programs, research initiatives, graduate education, technology transfer and the university's research park. Under his leadership, UO has seen sustained growth in federal research grants and technology transfer activities. He has guided the UO in growing and launching interdisciplinary centers and initiatives spanning the innovation cycle, from basic discovery to commercialization.

I am particularly pleased that companies directly derived from University of Oregon research currently employ more than 255 Oregonians and in 2010 generated more than